Calcoin News

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California State Numismatic Association

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Volume 8, Number 5

SEPTEMBER, 1954

Orange County Coin Club Tells

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Thursday, Oct. 7

10:00 A.M. Registration commences — continues until Sunday.
11:00 A.M. Tables for exhibit and bourse will be ready for use.
8:00 P.M. Convention committee meeting.

Friday, Oct. 8

8:00 A.M. Breakfast meeting of CSNA officers.
10:00 A.M. Tour of Mission Inn.
10:00 A.M. Educational tour of coin exhibits for special groups.
12:30 P.M. Ladies Fashion Show and Luncheon (Court Garden).
2:00 P.M. Auction (El Oro Room), Leo Young, auctioneer.
2:00 P.M. Ladies Card Party.
8:00 P.M. Forum and Panel Discussion.

Saturday, Oct. 9

8:00 A.M. Breakfast meeting of coin club officers.
10:00 A.M. Tour of Mission Inn.
10:00 A.M. Tour to outside points of interest.
1:00 P.M. Aquatic Show in Courtyard Swimming Pool.
2:00 P.M. Auction (El Oro Room), second session.
2:00 P.M. Educational tour of coin exhibits for special groups.
7:00 P.M. Banquet (Galeria Room) with Floor Show, followed by exhibit awards.

Sunday, Oct. 10

9:00 A.M. Tour to Mt. Rubidoux, scene of first outdoor Easter Sunrise Service.
11:00 A.M. Church Services.
12:30 P.M. Luncheon and award of prizes.
2:00 P.M. Adjournment and checkout.

General Chairman

HERBERT M. BERGEN

CONVENTION DATE — The convention will open officially at noon Thursday, Oct. 7, and will end immediately following noon luncheon Sunday, Oct. 10.

CONVENTION CITY AND PLACE — The Mission Inn, Riverside.

To reach the Inn **from Los Angeles** (53 miles). By automobile: Highway 60 direct to Riverside. By bus: Pacific Electric bus direct to Riverside. By rail: Santa Fe or Union Pacific direct to Riverside. Or, by Tanner private cars of Tanner Tour No. 3, with stopover, if desired.

From the East: Santa Fe, Union Pacific or Southern Pacific (via Colton). Greyhound and Transcontinental bus lines.

Hotel rates for the convention are $6-$8, single room with bath; $10-$12, double bed with bath (two persons). Members will be circularized before Sept. 3, and will be sent applications for reservations. The swimming pool will be open to guests bringing their own swim suits.

SPONSORING CLUB — Orange County Coin Club, organized in 1939;

Plans for Riverside Convention

present membership more than 200; meets regularly the fourth Wednesday of each month at the Woman's Clubhouse, Brea. President, Harry S. Davidson; Secretary, Herbert M. Bergen. This club will furnish all programs and entertainment.

CONVENTION COMMITTEE — Chairman, Herbert M. Bergen, Fullerton; vice-chairman, Dr. C. Glenn Curtis, Brea; finance, T. Kirk Hill, La Verne; registration, John Haldiman Jr., Artesia; program, J. Howard Robinson, Whittier; entertainment, Harry L. Hanson, Santa Ana; exhibits, Dr. C. L. Emmons, Emmons Bldg., Ontario; bourse, Harry S. Davidson, 2960 The Mall, Los Angeles 23; publicity, Frank Hall, **Brea Progress,** Brea; security, Stewart Bingham, Arcadia; awards, Stewart Bingham. Seven of the 10 members named are past presidents of the Orange County Coin Club. Each committee member will choose any assistants and will be chairman of his particular sub-committee.

REGISTRATION — Registration will commence at 10 a.m. Thursday in the Presidential Room. Registration fee of $7.50 will include Saturday Evening Banquet and Sunday Noon Luncheon. Ladies Friday Noon Luncheon will be an extra charge, with tickets to be sold at the registration desk.

ENTERTAINMENT — Entertainment will be featured by a Ladies Fashion Show at the Ladies Luncheon on Friday; an Aquatic Exhibition at the Swimming Pool on Saturday, after lunch; a floor show at the Saturday Evening Banquet; and possibly additional entertainment at the Sunday Luncheon. There also will be tours as indicated.

NUMISMATIC FORUM — Forum speakers Friday, Oct. 8, will be V. Leon Belt, Phoenix, Ariz.; Leonel C. Panosh, San Diego; Ralph Mitchell, Palo Alto; and Charles L. Ruby, Fullerton. Dr. C. Glenn Curtis, Brea, will moderate the forum. Topics were unavailable at press time.

EXHIBITS — Exhibit cases in the display room will be available for all who wish to display. Entry blanks will be mailed in advance to all CSNA members. A charge of 50 cents a case will be made.

BOURSE — Bourse tables for dealers will be available at $15 a table. Reservations must be made with the bourse chairman.

POLICE PROTECTION — The Chief of Police of the City of Riverside will provide day and night protection of exhibits and bourse tables in the display room.

PUBLICITY — Advance publicity, as well as coverage of the convention, will be under the direction of the publicity chairman, an experienced newspaper man. The Orange County Coin Club plans an official convention program which will contain all essential convention information.

Early Bulletins, Programs Are Now Collectors' Items

Many requests have been received by Secretary R. G. McArthur, Editor C. V. Kappen, and Board Member L. C. Panosh for back numbers of **Calcoin News,** past convention programs, and early (mimeographed) copies of the **CSNA Bulletin.** The bulletins, programs, and magazines are wanted for binding into book form.

Secretary McArthur says he has no back numbers available of the early (mimeographed) CSNA Bulletins, and no past convention programs. Panosh and Kappen also have depleted their stocks. Dealers sell the early issues for 50 cents to $1 a copy when they have them in stock.

If you have saved your bulletins and programs, hang on to them — they're collectors' items.

If you have issues of Vols. 1 through 3 and any convention programs you do not want, send them to the Calcoin News Editor, 2201 Peachtree Lane, San Jose 26, and he will mail them out to those requesting them.

New Coin Shop

J. J. O'Brien has announced the opening of a coin and stamp shop in Santa Barbara May 15.

Who's Who In California Numismatics

Robert C. Patterson

"From the sublime to the ridiculous would be one way of expressing my coin collecting interests," said Robert C. (Pat) Patterson, Daly City, when asked what he collects. "I collect U.S. proofs, U.S. freaks, and coins of Leopold the Hog Mouth. I collect proof coins because of their perfection, beauty and workmanship. Freaks fascinate me because of the exact opposite. They show the flaws in mechanization. One of the greatest pleasures I get from collecting, however, is the attending of coin meetings and conventions and the good fellowship and friendship deriving from these functions."

Pat was born April 8, 1905, in Bedford County, Va., the son of George and Florentine Patterson. He was reared in and around Roanoke, Va., and attended public schools in Roanoke, including Roanoke and Jefferson High Schools.

He began his apprenticeship as a printer on the Roanoke Times-World while attending high school, and completed his apprenticeship on the Washington (D.C.) Post.

Pat joined the staff of the Pacific Coast Edition of the Wall Street Journal as printer March 8 after having worked for 15 years previously on the San Francisco Examiner and Call-Bulletin. That is, with the exception of the period Jan. 1, 1942 - Oct. 4, 1944, when he was a bombadier in the Navy Air Corps.

He was married Sept. 16, 1948, to Miss Mabel Dunn.

His coin - collecting hobby began seriously in 1946. He is a member of the ANA, CSNA, PCNS, East Bay Coin Club, Redwood Empire Coin Club, and the San Carlos Coin Club. For the past two years he has been a member of the board of governors of the Pacific Coast Numismatic Society.

Pat was a member of the Awards committee at the CSNA Arrowhead Springs convention. He won first place award at the Santa Rosa convention with an exhibit of the coins of Leopold the Hog Mouth.

Other hobbies he enjoys are target shooting, fishing, playing scrabble and cards with Earl Parker, and the poker games at CSNA conventions.

Mr. and Mrs. Patterson are among the "regulars" who attend the state conventions both in the North and in the South.

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CSNA members receive *Calcoin News* without additional cost beyond their annual dues of $2.

Vol. VIII SEPTEMBER, 1954 No. 5

Cleopatra: A Numismatic Romance

By EARLE K. STANTON, *Los Angeles*

(Continued from July Issue)

Not only did they live together openly and publicly proclaim the union, but their son, given a diminutive of the father's name, was recognized by Antony as Caesar's legitimate successor. But perhaps it is more pleasurable to consider Cleopatra as a mere mistress of the Dictator. If so, I would not wish to deprive anyone of such enjoyment.

Lewis M. Reagan, a contemporary numismatist, writing for the Brooklyn Coin Club in 1941, says, "Furthermore, it appears that under the laws of her own country, she was legally married to each of these men (Caesar and Antony), and remained faithful to them until death". Emil Ludwig states, "In the eyes of the Egyptian priests, Caesar was her husband, although the voluble Alexandrians were scribbling on the walls epigrams about the Roman Ammon", now united to their Isis.

Other writers, equally learned, have taken the view that there was an intended marriage not yet performed. Weigall says that "in all but name they were married, and it was the fixed intention of both that their marriage should presently be recognized in Rome as it already had been in Egypt". Ferrero thinks that Cleopatra probably came to Rome to propose to Caesar the plan of becoming King of Egypt through marriage to her. Caesar certainly had the idea of becoming a king and of moving the capital from Rome to Alexandria. So far as Calpurnia was concerned, Caesar would have had no compunc-

JULIUS CAESAR portrait denarii. Fig. 1. CAESAR DICT PERPETVO, his laureate hd. r. Rev. L. BVCA, Venus stg. l., holding small figure of Victory on r. hand and leaning on sceptre. c. 44 B.C. Refers to claim of Julia gens to descent from Anchises and Venus. BMC 4154; B. 35; R. 119; C. 23. Fig. 2, Caesar's laur. hd. r. between laurel-branch and winged caduceus. Rev. L. LIVINEIVS above bull butting r., REGVLVS below. One of a series struck in celebration of some public games, which included bull fights, c. 42 B.C. BMC 4274; B. 1; R. 563; S. 1106; C. 27. Fig. 3, CAESAR DICT PERPETVO, his laur. and veiled hd. r. Rev. P. SEPVLLIVS MACER, Venus stg. l., holding Victory and sceptre, below which rests shield. c. 44 B.C. BMC 4173; B. 50; R. 559; S. 1074. Fig. 4, M. SANQVINIVS III VIR, laur. deified hd. of J. Caesar r., comet above. Rev. AVGVST. DIVI. F. LVDOS SAE, priest stg. l. Interesting in that it shows that rejuvenation accompanied deification. 12 B.C. BMC 4584; B. 256; R. 905; C. 6 (J. Caesar); MS 142. Coins from the collection of C. V. Kappen, San Jose.

tion about divorcing her if a union with Cleopatra seemed politically wise. Divorce was as easy to accomplish as marriage.

Numismatically, we find no particular assistance either from coins of Cleopatra or of Caesar. On one of Caesar's denarii we do find a small cupid to the left of the head of Venus or on her shoulder, which has been suggested as standing for the young Caesarion. Also on one of Cleopatra's coins, she appears to be holding the young child.

All that we can definitely say, then, is that, whether ceremonially married or not, a definite relationship existed which at least was comparable to what we know as a common law marriage, mutual consent being the only essential, which is still valid in a number of states. And it is a general rule that marriage, valid where solemnized, is valid everywhere.

Now as to Cleopatra and Mark Antony, we are reasonably certain that a formal marriage ceremony actually took place about BC 37 or 36, perhaps in Antioch if not in Alexandria. This view has been accepted by such writers as Letronne, Kromayon, Ferrero and others, and is based on some quite tangible evidence.

The writer Athenaeus refers to Antony as being "married" to Cleopatra, not the fact of the marriage but its date being open to question. Our old friend Plutarch says, "But Antony, first of all marrying two wives at once, did a thing which no Roman had ever allowed himself; and then he drove away his lawful Roman wife to please the foreign and unlawful woman".

Claude Ferval opines that Antony desired to "arrogate to himself, as a satrap, the right to have more than one wife at any one time", and that his marriage with Cleopatra was duly "inscribed on the Civil Registers at Antioch, as well as in Alexandria". So likewise, in Wertheimer's "Cleopatra", we find that "The union between Antony and the Queen possessed all the Antioch characteristics of marriage", which some suppose to have taken place in the spring of BC 36". Other writers place the date as "in the autumn of the year BC 37".

We have, also, positive statements by the two contracting parties that there was a marriage between Antony and Cleopatra. It will be remembered that we have no such statements in regard to any marriage with Caesar. There is a letter written about BC 32 from Mark Antony to Octavian (Augustus) in answer to the latter's communication taking Antony to task for his relations with Cleopatra.

Mark Antony there says, "What has put you out of temper with me? That I consort with the Queen? **She is my wife.** Is this a new thing with

GOLD COIN OF JULIUS CAESAR (46 B.C.), A. Hirtius, C CAESAR COS TER, head of Pietas, r., rev. A HIRTIVS PR, lituus, jug and axe (Syd. 1017; G. I, 4050; B. 22 (Julia). The coin pictured, enlarged about 2½ times, is from the collection of Dr. C. Glenn Curtis.

me? Have I not acted so for these nine years?" Whatever Antony's failings may have been, and he had many, his frankness was always an outstanding characteristic, and I think we may well believe him. Marriage often is proved in our own courts by such testimony.

Tacitus records a similar statement in regard to marriage, made by Cleopatra after Antony's death. As reported by Olympus, the Queen's physician, she said, "Oh, dearest Antony, it was not long since with these hands I buried you. Nothing could part us while we lived, but death threatens to divide us. Do not allow **your living wife** to be abandoned; let me not be led in triumph to your shame, but hide me, hide me, bury me with you. For all of my bitter misfortunes, nothing has been so terrible as this brief time that I have lived without you".

According to Arthur Weigall, a careful student of the period, there was a definite agreement between Cleopatra and Antony, designed to secure their respective rights, and those of the royal children. Antony was to be Autocrator, absolute ruler of the East. Cleopatra's Egyptian realm was to include parts of Syria, Cilicia, Cyprus and Crete, a not inconsiderable marriage gift of Roman territories. Caesarion, now some 14 years of age, was to be recognized as the King of Kings and rightful heir. The children of Antony and the Queen were given certain minor kingdoms.

As soon as this agreement was made, says Weigall, "I think there can be little doubt that Antony and Cleopatra were quietly married, and in celebration of the event, coins were struck, showing their two heads".

This denarius, struck somewhere in the East, picturing both parties, is a highly desirable coin, by no means common, and is much in demand. The obverse shows an Armenian tiara behind Antony's robust portrait, referring to his recent campaign, while Cleopatra's likeness is surrounded by the cryptic legend, "Cleopatrae Reginae Regum Filiorum Regum", translated as referring to the coin as one of Cleopatra, Queen of Kings, and of her sons who are also kings. Behind Cleopatra's head is the prow of a ship, no doubt referring to the assistance given by her to Antony, in furnishing a navy. Antioch, Ephesus and Athens have been suggested as possible places of mintage.

The British Museum possesses only three of these coins, so naturally I feel pleased at having the same number. At one time I had four of them. In this connection I may mention that the British Museum still has its three coins, so I am not under suspicion. Several of our classical collectors have from time to time accused me of bringing home everything that was loose in Europe, a most dastardly idea.

The sum total of these various bits of evidence is at least most persuasive that some sort of marriage, according to Greek and/or Egyptian custom, took place between Cleopatra and Antony. She remained with him until his suicide in BC 30, her own suicide following shortly thereafter. Caesarion was liquidated by Augustus' orders as a possible rival, but Cleopatra Selene, daughter of Antony and the Queen, lived to become Queen of Mauretania as the wife of Juba II, and their son, Ptolemy, succeeded to their kingdom, being finally put to death by Caligula. Cleopatra Selene and her son Ptolemy are also numismatically represented.

I now propose to leave with you the question of marriage, a definite and compelling solution of which probably never will be reached. In all events, if you are classically minded, your collection must possess a portrait coin of this famous Queen. And any time that Cleopatra needs a defender, I shall be glad to carry a flaming torch for the lady.

THE END

East Bay 'Coinival'

The East Bay Coin Club, Oakland, will hold its second annual "Coinival" Sunday, Oct. 3. Exhibits, bourse, auction, entertainment, and refreshments are planned. Members of other clubs are welcomed.

Stanton On Tour

Earle K. Stanton, Los Angeles, left Aug. 4 on a vacation tour which will take him to Ireland, England, France, Greece, Egypt, and Italy. He plans to return home about Nov. 15.

California Club News, Views, and Whos

EAST BAY COIN CLUB, Oakland. Fifty members and 28 guests attended the July 9 meeting in Jenny Lind Hall. The ANA slide series on fractional currency was shown, with **Earl A. Parker** and **Dan Redmond** as narrators.

Gilbert D. Eaton, president, spoke briefly on the Spring, 1955, state convention, which will be held at the Hotel Claremont in Berkeley, on the Lido Deck, a prominent room overlooking the gardens and San Francisco Bay. We hope to sponsor a convention which will be the best yet.

Membership applications were received from **L. M. Pring,** 2811 Telegraph Ave., Berkeley; **M. K. Carr,** 426 Benicia Rd., Vallejo; and **D. L. Rhodes,** P.O. Box 1111, Vallejo. **Edward Fogler** introduced **William C. Lerche,** new member.

Earl Parker was presented with a birthday cake on the occasion of his 62nd (?), 21st (?), 39th (?) birthday.

Exhibits: **R. G. McArthur,** U.S. large cents, 1793-96, and method of typing labels; **Arnold Rosing,** Pony Express medal in silver, 1796 dollar, and two types of the 1794 half dollar; **Don Thrall,** U.S. fractional, Confederate, and foreign fractional currency.

Rolland Meyers, plastic holder made by himself for Lincoln cent set and bust of Lincoln made from destroyed bank notes; **Ken Allen,** gold coins mounted in plastic; **John E. Ohls,** four U.S. coins commemorating events of the Revolutionary period of U.S. history; **A. G. K. Jakobsen, American Numismatic Manual** of 1859, by Montroville Wilson Dickeson, M.D.

Ed Fogler, so-called half dollars; **Charles W. Peters,** 1796 large cent, 1797 dollar, 1849 quarter dollar, counterfeit 1890 CC dollar, 1874S dime, quarter, and half-dollar, and California gold; **Clifford Bloom,** Japanese 10-yen, fourth year of Meiji, 1871; **Donald L. Rhodes,** ancient Chinese one-chin of Yuan, half-liang, and pu pants money; **Sidney Haas,** Andorra 1874 10-centimes, Liechtenstein silver of 1728-1924, and Monaco coins, 1659-1952.

Earl Parker disposed of 43 lots of auction material in quick order. Refreshments were served by **Mary Goodrich** and **Erich Werling** and the meeting was adjourned at 10 p.m.

* * *

President Gilbert D. Eaton welcomed 50 members and 13 guests to the June 11 meeting. **Dan Redmond** introduced **Charles V. Kappen,** our member speaker for the evening, who spoke on Coins of the Bible, and showed colored slides as well. Maj. Kappen's talk was very interesting, and was enjoyed by all.

Two new members were introduced and were presented with membership cards. A membership application was received from **William C. Lerche,** 516 43rd St., Oakland.

Walt Ritchie presented the club's new mobile bookcase to be used for our library. The case will be rolled into the meeting room each month for use of all members. Cost was under $60.

President Eaton remarked that he visited many dealers while on vacation and that prices of coins generally are higher in the East than in the West.

Exhibits: **Arnold Rosing,** six Prussian proof silver coins, all with different reverses; **A. G. K. Jakobsen,** coin glass made during 1892 Chicago World Fair, with reproductions of U.S. quarter dollars around the sides; **Clifford H. Bloom,** Republic of Lucca gold ducat of Charles, 1552.

R. G. McArthur, Mariposa County Courthouse Centennial token; **Ken Allen,** rare large notes and small gold notes; **Charles V. Kappen,** coins of the Bible; **George F. Hodges,** "D" series dollar notes showing changes in administration through signatures.

Bill DeRade, U.S. proof sets in plastic, 1942-54; **E. A. Parker,** complete set uncirculated Liberty Walking half-dollars, 1821 English proof set of George IV; **Rudy Gjurovich,** early merchants' tokens, set of Hawaii, and two pictures of his display at the San Jose Hobby Show, together with his first-place award ribbon.

Earl Parker did his usual good job

with 45 lots of auetion material. The meeting was adjourned at 10:15 p.m., after whieh refreshments were served by **Pearl Holm** and her eommittee.

—Don T. Thrall, Seeretary.

* * *

GARFIELD NUMISMATISTS. — A seeond junior coin elub, Garfield Numismatists, is now sponsored by the East Bay Coin Club, Oakland. Members are students of Garfield Junior High Sehool, Berkeley.

The first meeting, held at Live Oak Recreation Center, Berkeley, May 19, was attended by 13 Garfield boys. Their present eolleetions indieate a wide and aetive knowledge of eoins.

The new elub, formed under the Recreation Program of Garfield Junior High, is the first hobby group to be started under this program. **Mrs. John F. Carson** is Reereation Program treasurer; **Mr.** and **Mrs. Jack H. Johnson** are elub sponsors. Johnson was ehairman of the first meeting. The second Tuesday of eaeh month was chosen as the regular meeting date.

Several months ago, **Stanley Hawley** was asked by parents if the EBCC would help in the venture. During a board meeting diseussion, **Roy Hill** agreed to be eounselor. EBCC members present at the organization meeting were Hill, **Daniel Redmond, Robert Illing,** and Hawley.

The seeond meeting was held June 8 at 7:30 p.m. in the auditorium of the Berkeley Board of Edueation. Present were 10 students, three parents, and two members of the EBCC, Hill and Hawley. Hill called the meeting to order.

Offieers eleeted were **Bill Salisbury,** president; **John Carson,** vieepresident; **Arthur Johnson,** reeording seeretary; **Dick Stayner,** financial secretary; and **Larry Price,** sergeant-at-arms.

The group voted their name to be "Garfield Numismatists". Dues were set at 25 eents a year.

Displays were made by **Larry Price, John Carson, George Ruben,** and **Arthur Johnson.**

Stanley Hawley displayed ancient Greek coins and **Roy Hill** exhibited and talked on Hawaiian coins.

—Stanley S. Hawley.

* * *

LOS ANGELES COIN CLUB. — The 316th regular meeting July 2 was held at Foresters' Hall. President **W. R. Fanning** presided over an attendanee of 75 members and guests. Eleeted to elub membership were **M. H. Bolender, Delmar N. Boyer,** and **Len Vezirian.**

Speakers, drawn from members, and their subjects were **Robert E. Williams,** eoin-eolleeting experiences; **George Bennett,** the span of history, exemplified by coins of aneient Greeee and the U.S.; **Jay D. Dare,** "Money Magie", trieks performed with coins and eurreney; **Karl M. Brainard,** the story of "In God We Trust" on U.S. eoins; and **W. D. Koonce,** German military orders and decorations of wars in whieh the U.S. and Germany were eombatants.

Exhibits: **George Bennett,** eoins of aneient Greeee and the U.S.; **W. D. Koonce,** Order of German Eagle (World War II), Star of Brabant, Hessen (WW I), and Order of Golden Lion, Hessen (Ameriean Revolution); **Harold McCabe,** type set of U.S. eoins.

After a drawing for door prizes and the serving of refreshments, a 70-lot auetion was eondueted by Bennett.

* * *

Total attendanee at the June 4 meeting was 119, an all-time reeord. The San Gabriel Coin Club and the Messrs. **Fred Bass, Robert L. Butrick, Paul W. Freestone,** and **George F. Schmidt** were eleeted to membership.

A. Kosoff of the Numismatie Gallery diseussed the Farouk auetion in Cairo, Egypt, whieh he attended in March. He displayed a eopy of the auetion catalog listing 2900 lots whieh brought more than $750,000. He deseribed in detail many of the eoins sold and recounted diffieulties experieneed by dealers and others attending the sale. Aeeess to material for examination prior to sale, poor eondition of some eoins apparently due to mishandling, exehange, eustoms and transportation arrangements were among problems eneountered.

American dealers were hampered far less by their government's restrietions than were dealers of other eountries. Kosoff and others were able to obtain and ship to the U.S. many eoins of good quality and value. (For a first-hand aeeount by

Kosoff, see the March, 1954, **Numismatist.**)

Exhibits: **Dr. Charles Harbeck,** odd and curious coins, pewter and porcelain coins, freaks and offstrikes, and a Spanish "cob" dollar; **W. D. Koonce,** Japanese decorations, the Order of the Rising Sun and Order of the Sacred Treasure, Third Class; chart showing the rise and decline of the Roman and Greek empires, with coins representative of their eras; Japanese occupation paper money intended for use in Australia, Malaya and Netherlands Indies; coins of Australia and New Guinea, special coinage for use by Japanese prisoners of war (complete set).

After an interval for refreshments and awarding of door prizes, **George Bennett** conducted the auction.

—William H. Spence, Secretary.

* * *

ORANGE COUNTY COIN CLUB, Brea. — May 26 marked the 191st regular monthly meeting of the Orange County Coin Club, held as usual in the Womans Clubhouse, Brea. **President Harry Davidson** opened the meeting, attended by 109 members and guests. Three new members were admitted to the club.

The sudden death of **Colonel Earl N. Yoder** of Santa Ana was announced by **Joe Steele.** Colonel Yoder was an active attendant at meetings with his son, **Barton,** a junior member of the club.

Extensive exhibits of coins were furnished by three members, **Dr. V. G. Rich,** Mexican coins; **Charles Ruby,** a complete set of U.S. dimes; and **Eugene Johnston,** dollar coins of the world and several volumes of 16th century numismatic books featuring Greek and Roman coins.

Program Chairman **Winn Osborne** introduced **Dr. A. F. Pradeau** of La Crescenta as the speaker. His subject, of course, was "Coins of Mexico", for which he is the leading authority. He wrote the first book to be published on this subject, commencing in 1927 and finishing in 1937. For this work he was given a gold medal by the Government of Mexico. Dr. Pradeau is now engaged in further studies and preparation of additional publications on the subject.

The speaker described the early history of Mexican coinage, beginning with the establishment of the first mint at Mexico City in 1536, more than 250 years before the establishment of the United States Mint at Philadelphia. This mint made mostly silver coins and a few copper coins during the so-called Colonial period, which extended from 1536 to 1821. The coins were of ½-, 1-, 4-, and 8-reales denomination. The revolution under Hidalgo ended Spanish rule (1810-1821), but had little effect on the coinage value and design based on escudos and reales.

It was not until Emperor Maximilian, under French rule, introduced the metric system that this was changed to the system based on pesos and centavos. There was a brief return to reales in 1873, because of the China trade, but otherwise the new system prevailed down to the present time. The numerous mints in Mexico were reduced to three in 1895, and these are still in operation.

The speaker noted that Mexico has produced one-half of the world's silver and in 300 years has, to date, coined money to the value of $2,165,927,794.81. There have been changes in the size and metal content of Mexican coins but, aside from the Madera revolutionary period from 1911 to 1916, when rebel leaders had their own coinage, the monetary system has remained very constant. Mexico also coined gold coins from 1942 to 1953, in 2-, 2½-, 5-, 10-, and 50-peso denominations.

In answer to a question, Dr. Pradeau said that the recent devaluation of the peso was purely an economic measure which affected exchange, but not the coinage.

Following this very interesting program, the meeting recessed for refreshments and then resumed to hold the regular auction of member coin offerings under the direction of auctioneer **Joe Steele.**

* * *

The club held its 192nd regular monthly meeting at Brea June 23 with **President Harry Davidson** presiding over an attendance of 69 members and 10 guests.

Herb Bergen, secretary, announced that the CSNA Riverside convention fund Luau held at the Trail's End ranch of **T. Kirk Hill** June 20 was a grand success and that this insured the best program and entertainment

for the convention that could possibly be expected.

Winn Osborne, program chairman, showed the set of ANA slides featuring United States commemorative coins other than half dollars. This included a narration of the description of each coin and its historical significance. It proved to be a very interesting and instructive program for the numismatically-minded members as well as for those who seldom see or hear about such coins and medals.

As an added attraction, Harry Davidson displayed a large frame of counterfeit currency ranging from $1 to $100 which was lent for this occasion by the United States Secret Service Agent in Los Angeles. Arranged with these for comparison were genuine bills of the same denominations. This display attracted much attention and gave the folks a chance to see how cleverly counterfeiters can imitate currency.

After the usual refreshment period, the meeting concluded with the regular auction under the direction of auctioneer **Joe Steele.**

—Herb Bergen, Secretary.

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PACIFIC COAST NUMISMATIC SOCIETY, San Francisco. — The 460th meeting, attended by 35 members and 10 visitors, featured presentation of the ANA's Edward T. Newell Visual Education Committee slide series No. 2, "United States Commemorative Half Dollar Types". **John E. Ohls** was narrator and **Charles V. Kappen,** projectionist. The meeting was held in the Palace Hotel.

This being the 39th anniversary of the Society, a souvenir medal of the PPIE of 1915, during which time the PCNS was founded by the late Farran Zerbe, was donated to the Society by **Kurt E. Loret.**

After introduction of guests, the following exhibitors explained their displays: **Ken P. Allen,** coins of San Marino; **Clifford H. Bloom,** gold hercules issued by the Banking Corp. of Tangier, 1953; **Rudy Gjurovich,** U.S. merchants' cards, Hawaiian coins of 1883, and pictures of his first-prize winning exhibit at the recent San Jose Hobby Show.

Roy Hill, Hawaiian commemorative half dollars, 1928, honoring Capt. Cook for his discovery of the islands in 1778; **George F. Hodges,** Grant gold dollar without star, souvenir struck in first steam coining press at International Exposition in Philadelphia, 1877, first paper money of Saudi Arabia, and Series "D" of small U.S. dollar bills; **A. G. K. Jakobsen, The American Numismatic Manual** by M. W. Dickenson, 1859.

John E. Ohls, ANS monograph on U.S. commemoratives by David M. Bullowa and the U.S. commemorative book by Charles W. Foster; **Earl A. Parker,** U.S. commemorative half dollar types and a Mormon 10-cent note; **F. C. Powell,** U.S. half dollars, 1794-1867; **David L. Redfield,** New Zealand set commemorating recent visit of Queen Elizabeth II; and **Paul D. Snedaker,** Isabella commemorative quarter, 1893.

A short, snappy auction concluded the meeting. Coin collectors who find themselves in San Francisco Aug. 25, Sept. 29, or Oct. 27 are cordially invited to attend the PCNS meetings at the Palace Hotel.

—Roy Hill, Secretary.

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REDWOOD EMPIRE COIN CLUB, Santa Rosa. — The June 15 meeting was called to order by **Henry T. Wrede,** historian.

Roy Hill, PCNS secretary, displayed pictures of the various U.S. mints and branch mints, and discussed them. He said the first U.S. Mint was built in Philadelphia in 1792. Then two branch mints were erected, one in North Carolina, 1836-37, and one in Georgia. The San Francisco Branch Mint was completed in 1854, and one at Denver followed. The Carson City Mint was built in 1878. The cost of machinery was quite a surprise, as it cost only $999 and is still in operation today.

The Redwood Empire Coin Club participated in the annual Youth Hobby Show sponsored by the Santa Rosa Druids May 22-23. Approximately 1500 persons saw the display and we were told it was one of the best.

Earl A. Parker, San Francisco, gave a short narration on "Gold Bank Notes".

Lesley G. Lodge, PCNS president, said 55 California cities and towns

were represented at the recent CSNA convention, and that there were 15 persons present who represented 10 other states. A point of interest to those who have coins of Guernsey, Lodge said, is that Hitler got as far as Guernsey in his contemplated invasion of Britain.

Cliffton C. Cole, vice-president, displayed a complete type set of U.S. commemorative half dollars and discussed the type method of collecting. **Joe Wathen,** Santa Rosa, spoke on his exhibit, an incomplete type set of U.S., 1805-1954.

Wrede gave a brief discourse on his gold certificate display and said that they were the ones that led to the Hauptmann capture in the Lindbergh kidnaping.

Guy Chapman, who attended the David-Graves Collection display April 8-10, gave highlights of it.

—Alexandra Gahwiler, Secretary.

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SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY COIN CLUB. — The 73rd regular meeting was held July 15 at 631 "G" St., San Bernardino. **John C. Yribarne** presided.

At the business session it was voted that, regardless of how many extra meetings are held during the year, the regular coin club meeting will be held the third Thursday of each month at the regular meeting place.

Dale Howard, vice-president, gave club badges to those present. Only one member was assessed the 25-cent fine for not wearing his badge at the meeting.

Charles Colver invited all members, their families and friends to attend a picnic at his San Dimas Canyon residence Aug. 8 at 2 p.m.

Bryan Burke announced that the next program will be a showing of ANA slides. President Yribarne remarked that the club has enjoyed seeing all but one series of the ANA slides.

Rudy Abrams, a native of Austria, was guest speaker. He talked on ancient and European crowns and exhibited many crowns from the various European countries.

Each member who bought door prize tickets received an uncirculated 1954 half dollar. This was to stimulate the collecting of uncirculated coins.

After refreshments, furnished by **Dr. Calvert Emmons** and **Mr. Estes,** the meeting was adjourned.

—Mrs. Ernest C. Kessler, Secretary.

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Members of the San Bernardino County Coin Club, their families and friends, attended a picnic at the home of **Mr.** and **Mrs. Charles Colver** in beautiful San Dimas Cayon, Aug. 8.

Each brought a basket lunch and enjoyed sharing with all others at two long tables provided in the lovely grounds adjacent to the Colver home.

During a visiting period, the members enjoyed displaying and exchanging coins.

Colver, a forest ranger and the host, gave a talk on "Nature Conservation". He told how forest fires are started, how they are fought, and what the general public should do to prevent these awful tragedies. Everyone profited by the information and should now be aware of his own responsibilities in preserving our national forests.

Bryan Burke Jr. conducted a fun-packed auction, in a most unusual and fascinating manner. The coins, donated by **Fred Coops,** were in envelopes. Burke only described the coins and did not display them. Prizes were awarded to those getting the most points in guessing the kind of coin. There were surprises galore when the buyers found out the coins they had purchased. A trophy prize was given to **Mrs. L. L. Brown,** who bought the most coins. In this trophy were unusual souvenirs, symbolizing the "queer traits" of coin collectors. Much credit is due Bryan Burke (the man of many talents) for his originality in promoting fun in this auction. The proceeds from the sale go to the club treasury.

Tickets were sold by Fred Coops for the drawing of door prizes.

The meeting adjourned. The crowd was reluctant to leave, but Mr. and Mrs. Colver have extended an invitation for another picnic at their home next summer.

Mrs. Ernest C. Kessler, Secretary.

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The 72nd meeting June 17 was

attended by 33 persons who enjoyed the ANA slides on U.S. commemorative coins.

New badges were presented to members. These will be worn during meetings.

Several members attended the excellent barbecue given by **T. Kirk Hill** at La Verne. A very special "thank you" was given the host.

The usual auction, social hour, and door prize drawing were held.

The club's regular secretary is absent from the state for an indefinite period and we all hope for her early return that we may again get the club's activities in the news.

—A. B. Coon, Acting Secretary.

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SAN DIEGO NUMISMATIC SOCIETY. — The 207th meeting was held at the YMCA, 8th and C Sts., Aug. 2. **Arthur Vigneault** presided, with 48 members and guests present.

President Vigneault announced that the next meeting will be held Sept. 13.

Dr. Bruce Wallace showed color slides of the Numismatic Display that he took at the San Diego County Fair.

Speaker of the evening was **Clive Foss,** our junior vice-president. Clive spoke on "The Later Coins of Rome" and exhibited many coins of that time. If he keeps up with his studies on Roman history, we will have another **Tom Ward** in our midst. Our society is indeed fortunate in having such a promising young man within our group.

Exhibits: **Dr. Bruce L. Wallace,** Ancient Roman coins; **Arthur J. Vigneault,** Canadian silver, copper, and bronze coins; **Francis S. Jones,** set of Mexican gold 20-peso calendar stone pieces.

The meeting was adjourned for an auction and trading session.

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The 206th regular meeting was held July 12 at the YMCA. **President Arthur Vigneault** presided over 52 members and guests present. **Mr.** and **Mrs. Johann Johnson** became members.

Francis S. Jones, vice-chairman of the Coin Week committee, announced that the San Diego Numismatic Society had won Second Award for Class "A" clubs in the National Coin Week competition.

Dr. Bruce L. Wallace reported on the Coin Exhibit at the San Diego County Fair and said that SDNS members won 9 special, 42 first, 23 second, and 12 third awards.

The meeting being Ladies' Night, the ladies of the Society presented a question-and-answer program. **Mrs. Anna Merle Panosh,** moderator, presented a 1954 proof set to the winner, **Walter C. Luttmer.**

Refreshments were furnished by **Mrs. Mattie Knickerbocker, Mrs. Elise Wallace, Mrs. Mae Chamberlain, Mrs. Gail Walrath, Mrs. Minnie MacDonald, Mrs. Mary Bowler,** and **Mrs. Ivah Vigneault.**

Exhibits: **James J. Andersen,** commemorative half-dollar type set placed in plastic flag of the U.S. and his County Fair ribbons; **Tom Ward,** ancient Roman coins and his County Fair ribbons; **Eugene D. Johnston,** book on coins published in 1696; **Dr. Bruce L. Wallace,** County Fair ribbons; **Arthur Vigneault,** Mexican silver and bronze coins and his County Fair ribbons; and **Francis S. Jones,** his County Fair exhibit with ribbons.

—Francis S. Jones, Secretary.

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The San Diego Numismatic Society had a very successful Coin Show at the Southern California Exposition and San Diego County Fair June 25-July 5. Estimated attendance at the Society exhibit was more than 150,000 for the 11 days.

There were eight different divisions and classifications of the displays, which were arranged in 32 cases. Monetary value of the exhibit was more than $75,000. Twenty-five members participated, and won 6 special, 32 first, 23 second, and 12 third awards. There were 100 entries in the coin exhibit.

Award winners: **Dr. Bruce L. Wallace,** first awards for ancient Greek coins, crowns of the world, and German inflation notgeld; **Atwood L. MacDonald,** special and first awards for transportation tokens, first awards for U.S. currency and Denver Mint type set.

Mrs. Minnie MacDonald, special award for Elizabeth II Coronation proof sets; **Olav Berghli,** first award for Civil War tokens; **Mrs. Elise Wallace,** first award for U.S. proof set; **Arthur Vigneault,** first award for broken bank notes, first awards

for Indian-Lincoln cents and Confederate currency.

Mrs. Ivah Vigneault, first award for wooden nickels; **W. H. Bell,** first award for commemorative half dollars; **Eugene D. Johnston,** special and first awards for gold coins of the world, first awards for U.S. gold type set, and European crowns; **Louis Walrath,** first awards for fractional currency and Civil War tokens.

Leonel C. Panosh, special and first awards for odd and curious money, first awards for private gold, and coins of Malta; **Mrs. Anna Merle Panosh,** special and first awards for military medals; **Tom W. Ward,** first awards for ancient Roman bronze, ancient Roman silver, ancient Roman gold, and medieval Indian coins.

James J. Andersen, special and first awards for commemorative half dollars; **Emil Johnson,** first award for coins of Sweden; **Al Beckett,** first award for coins of the world; **Clive Foss,** junior first award for ancient Roman coins; and **Bill Kelley,** junior first awards for U.S. silver type set and U.S. copper-nickel type set.

The following members won second and third awards: **Horace Newman, Mrs. Ruth Berghli, Abe Beck, Mrs. Marie Devlin, Bill Roberts, Mrs. Gail Walrath,** and **Francis S. Jones.**

—Francis S. Jones, Secretary.

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SAN JOSE COIN CLUB. — "The Coins of Colonial America" was the theme of the 93rd meeting July 7 in the small ballroom of the Hotel De-Anza. **Charles V. Kappen** exhibited an extensive collection of U.S. Colonials which he acquired principally in England. **George Hodges** exhibited Colonial paper and metal money. Both Kappen and Hodges spoke briefly on Colonial issues.

Tom Boyce displayed coins and bills of Mexico, which he acquired there during a recent trip. **Syl Tully Jr.** showed Bungtowns, a copy of Atkins, and a Russian lead coin. **Roy Hill** exhibited Russian copper coins of the early 1800's, English cartwheels, the U.S. 1837 ½-cent token, and **Coins of the U.S. Mint,** 1883, Smith. President **Austen Warburton** displayed the 1953 annual report of Seaboard Finance, illustrated with many coin cuts.

It was suggested that the club adopt a seal for use on membership cards, stationery, and **Calcoin News** writeups. Members were asked to submit ideas for a seal at the August meeting.

A vote of thanks was given the ladies for refreshments at the June meeting. C. V. Kappen conducted an auction of 14 lots. Thirteen members were present.

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The 92nd meeting June 7, held at the YWCA, was attended by 22 members and guests. **Miss Barbara Lou Lind** became a member.

The program consisted of a showing of the ANA slides, "Women on Coins and Medals". **Miss Beverly Smith,** program chairman for this Ladies' Night meeting, gave the commentary, and **C. V. Kappen** operated the projector.

Following the slides, displays of coins on the subject were shown by the Messrs. **Hodges, Hill, Guarnera, Warburton, Boyce, Gordon,** and **Kappen.**

George Kohl called attention to the cut of our April meeting notice in the **Numismatist.**

Vincent Guarnera and Kohl reported on the J.C. show at the Fairgrounds. The County Fair was discussed and **George Hodges** was appointed to make arrangements for the club's exhibit space.

Mrs. Kohl and **Miss Smith** served ice cream and cookies.

—Syl C. Tully, Secretary.

Fake Ancients

Fake ancient coins which include electrotypes of rare Greek silver coins are now being shown in the state, according to Earl A. Parker.

Although electrotypes and castings usually are under weight, few collectors own jeweler's scales which measure weight in grains. A close examination of the fakes will show the small letters "RR" on the edge, and all edges have been filed, since the coins were cast.

Club To Exhibit

The San Jose Coin Club will exhibit at the Santa Clara County Fair Sept. 13-21. President Austen Warburton has appointed George F. Hodges chairman of a committee on arrangements. Rudy Gjurovich, Roy Hill, and Charles Kappen are committee members. A 20-foot space has been assigned the club.

'Benicia Mint' Conjecture

By ROY HILL, *San Francisco*

Mint operations at Benicia by Norris, Grieg & Norris have been indicated by various references to coining activity there as early as May 31, 1849, but facts are missing which would give the exact location of any such mint at Benicia.

Travel literature of 1849 called the attention of visitors to a mint at Benicia and newspaper accounts mention coins by Norris, Grieg and Norris being turned out there. Stockton is sometimes mentioned as the site. The coins of this firm are identified to San Francisco by the imprint of that city's name, but no coins are known with a Benicia imprint.

Just where were these coins made? This same question may be posed regarding the mint site for coins of Templeton Reid (of Lumpkin Co., Ga., fame) of whom about all that seems to be known of his California operations is that he was at one time in the San Jose - Santa Clara area. His coins have the name of San Francisco on them, also.

Some light might be thrown on Benicia by an article written by L. P. Marshall in the February, 1912, issue of a popular western monthly of bygone days, "Out West". Marshall's article deals with an early day place called Montezuma, a pioneer townsite which was laid out in 1846 by Lansing W. Hastings. Hastings had arrived in California in 1843 with Pierson B. Redding, S. J. Hensley and Nathan Coombs, among others, and later served as a member of the 1849 California Constitutional Convention in Monterey.

Montezuma was about 45 miles from San Francisco, near the mouth and on the west bank of the Sacramento River, beyond Benicia. The nearest abode was an old adobe house built by John Bidwell in 1844 under terms of a grant of land to him, about 13 miles further up the river. Bidwell is more prominently associated with the Chico area in Butte Co.

General M. G. Vallejo, on May 19, 1847, deeded to Robert Semple and Thomas O. Larkin a tract of land for the townsite of Benicia and by June the first house was erected. A second townsite for this area was to be laid out by Lansing W. Hastings as the place where the Mormons were to settle. They had set out for the San Francisco area and Hastings had selected Montezuma as their townsite. The Mormons settled in Salt Lake City, however, under the spell of the famous utterance, "This is the place", and so Montezuma remained unsettled.

L. P. Marshall Sr. was roaming the country hereabouts with some cattle in 1852-53. He had heard of a house in the region from a Major Stephen Cooper, so with his sons, John and Knox, he proceeded to occupy it.

The article by L. P. Marshall then says, "In and about the house we found appliances for the manufacture of counterfeit coins, such as crucibles, dies, copper, etc. It is supposed that a band of counterfeiters had found the place deserted and had taken possession of it."

This discovery of such equipment in 1852-53, a scant three years after Norris, Grieg and Norris' first operations in California, might suggest that it may have been some of their equipment either at the actual site of operations or moved there for storage and abandoned. Then, too, it could have been an advance shipment of coining equipment for the Mormons, who were enroute to the area but did not get there. We do know they made private gold coins in Salt Lake City. This could be equipment they never got to use.

The mention of the word "dies" in the quoted portion of the article by L. P. Marshall, without mention of the designs thereon, leaves the matter open to speculation as to whose they were, if not for counterfeiters' use as suggested in the article.

The United States trade dollar weighs more than the regular U.S. dollar — 420 gr. to 416 gr. for the latter.

From the Desk of the Secretary-Treasurer

NEW MEMBERS

615 LUMSDEN, Mrs. A. Gomez.....1019 "B" St., Petaluma, Calif.
613 SCHOLZ, Susie.....1822 Fell St., San Francisco, Calif.
614 SMITH, Beverly Gayle.....Rt. 4, Box 305, San Jose, Calif.
616 WALLEN, B. E., Sr., ...609 Galland St., Petaluma, Calif.
617 WATERS, Earl G. .....610 Dudley Way, Sacramento, Calif.

REINSTATED

37 STEELE, Joe G. .....1721 N. Ross St., Santa Ana, Calif.
200 TINKHAM, Fred E. .....P.O. Box 1105, Merced, Calif.

DECEASED

483 DEWIRE, James H. .....481 N. Ventura Ave., Ventura, Calif.

CHANGES OF ADDRESS

4 BINGHAM, Stewart J. .....533 E. Longden, Arcadia, Calif.
154 BUTTRAM, W. H. .....9551 Lenore Dr., Garden Grove, Calif.
476 COFFING, Courtney L. .....4300 Amherst, Dallas, Tex.
540 MEMEL, Edward G. .....3709 Swift Ave., San Diego 4, Calif.
428 SCHERMERHORN, R. F. .....1638 Fidelity Union Life Bldg., 1511 Bryan St., Dallas 1, Tex.

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS

Cash on hand June 1, 1954			$596.67
Receipts: 1954 dues	$ 11.00		
Bulletin	200.00		211.00
Total Receipts			$807.67
Disbursements: Postage and Supplies	49.38		
Advance of Bulletin Contributor	63.75		
Bulletin	230.02		343.15
Cash on hand August 15, 1954			$464.52

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Membership as of June 1, 1954		380
Additions: New members	7	
Reinstated	2	9
Total		389
Losses: Deceased	1	
Suspended	1	2
Net membership as of August 15, 1954		387

R. G. McArthur, Secretary.

Partnership Dissolved

A. Kosoff and Abner Kreisberg have been operating independently in the rare coin business since July 1, although the Numismatic Gallery will continue to function in matters of joint interest.

Kreisberg's address is 228 N. Beverly Dr., Beverly Hills. Kosoff's address now is P.O. Box 456, Encino.

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It's getting so it's easier to make your money first than it is to make it last.

Dealers Attention

Bids for the coin auction at the spring convention in Berkeley may be mailed to the CSNA secretary or may be presented in person at the Fall convention in Riverside. The auction will be awarded at the Riverside convention. Only restriction is CSNA membership.

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If you have an idea that children don't know the value of money, try giving a nickel to a kid!